Sereno Watson's
Notes. — No. V.

Missoula to Spokan Falls.
Sept. 11th to 26th 1880.

Watson
N-13

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY

THE GIFT OF

The Misses Watson of Northhampton
(nieces of Dr. Sereno Watson)
April 28, 1924.

Watson N-13

Meet Q.M. Cooke in town & report as to horses. He will send up wagon on Monday for tents & equipments.

Saturday - Sept. 11th.

Write up accounts, & answer letters. In afternoon get horse & buggy and go to Patten's canon for specimens of alder, and find also tolerable specimens of the only willow that grows to any considerable size & which is common in the mountains — sometimes 25 feet high and 4 to 6 inches in diameter or more. Try to get good specimens of the bark of the tamarac. Send the wood to the Post by the woodman who cuts it for me. From the canon to the Post, but can find only the antler, & back to town.

See about new saddle & bridle for the return trip, and in evening overhaul all my Colo trip specimens.

See about sending wood specimens east.

Sunday - Sept. 12th.

Tie up lots plants in driers & expose to the sun all day, wrapping up for mailing in the evening.

Find barometer record at end of diary.

Monday - Sept. 13th.

Mail four packages of Lolo plants & write to Mr. Robinson to care for them on arrival. To the Post in government ambulance, returning horse-equipments and tent. See Col. Gibson & provide for supply of grain to carry my horse from the ferry over the mountain. Send telegram to Prof. Sargent at San Francisco. Compare aneroid with the Station standard barometer & draw off barometer record since July 13.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11 a.m. | Station barometer, corrected | 26.620 |
| | " aneroid | 26.47 |
| | My aneroid | 26.33 |
| | Thermometer | 58 1/2° |

Back at 1 P.M., bringing the alder & willow sticks. Get gunny and coffee sacks and go to wrapping all

very good specimens for sending away. Pack up some specimens & send.

Tuesday, Sept. 14th

finish wrapping the wounds, drink, & deliver to Eddy, Gordon & Co. Go forward to Terminus U. P. R. R., paying freight to that point at rate of 1½ cents per pound — Friend to have of forwarding from there. Pack & deliver blanks, to be forwarded to Ogden. They take complete wrapping paper, which I do not write which to take with me nor to return. Try my new saddle & bridle. Get wind sick for wrapping envelope to be collected on my way back, provisions, &c. Pay all bills & am ready to leave Missoula in the morning for Fort Coeur d'Alene — 187 miles on horseback alone.

Lodgepole Sept. 10th

Left off at 7.15, after changing stirrups — strapping rubber back of saddle, haversack with provisions and the portfolio hanging from the pommel, blankets behind the saddle, and overcoat on top back — extra weight about 60 lbs. Breakfast for dinner. 18 miles, — saw the birch & alder specimens that should have been sent down to me. The birch nearly 6 inches in diameter, with loose light colored bark, with little doubt the same as the specimen of "lance birch" brought from the Jocko agency. On 14 miles to Willow Creek, the government party having moved from Willow Creek to beyond the Fork. Missoula or Hellgate valley to Frenchtown is without trees, the river bottom with cottonwood, alder, thorn, willow, and towards Frenchtown occasional pine. The mountains south mostly wooded

with small growth, those with more bare, the trees at Foundation coming down in the ravines to the valley. Below Foundation scattered pines & some ranches, the hills closing in after 5 or 6 miles, the timber beyond thinly scattered pine & Douglas spruce, with tamarac & balsam in the wide patches & canon.

Thursday, Sept. 16.

To Milk Ranch, 20 miles, along the Hoofs, the road at one long grade rising about 1 200 feet above the river.

Friday, Sept. 17th. To the Ferry over the Missoula (24 miles) and 1½ miles beyond to Mr. Avery's camp on the St. Regis. Road as yesterday, with one high grade, but I take the trail along the river above Superior City (a single house), juniper on the river bank 20° high. Considerable rain in P. M.

Saturday, Sept. 16

Rain and snow all night. Find Lt. Gulick in camp at first crossing of St. Regis (20 m.) & get breakfast & feed for horse, and sack of oats (25 lbs) to carry him over the mountains, packing it front of the saddle. Four crossings to Crowhest and 5 more to Packer's ranch where I stop for the night (25 mins). St. Regis canon narrow & damp, with much good timber of various kinds. Ivy pine, some aspen & cottonwood, some P. monticola, P. contorta plenty in some dry bottoms but small, B. balsamea & some alpine. Ivy hemlock. Four tributaries, 3 to 4 feet through.

Sunday, Sept. 19th.

A fine day, but frost & ice in the morning. Pay 5 cents for a small load of hay for the horses. To the summit 11 miles from Missoula, the pine becoming more abundant & larger. Mountains to north of summit said to be the highest of the Cœur d'Alene range but probably not over 7,000 feet, dry & nearly bare. Reached by a 2 mile grade, coming to a cedar swamp and after a dry crossing between & passing the Hope quicksilver mine to another & larger one through which the road is laid. It is getting dark but my horses are safely through for some 8 or 9 miles & bring up unexpectedly at the camp of the telegraph party at 8 P.M. We buy grain of a lad, but they are likely out of forage & have turned their mules into the hills. My horses eat awfully hard supper & breakfast. 26 miles.

Monday - Sept. 20th

Start at 6.45 and make the Mission (26 miles) at 6 P.M. — stopping in the morning to get supply of provisions of the cotton, lawn, flat, spread velvet and 5 white pines, which I carry in a sack on my saddle. Camp on Capt. Stanfield's of the Wind Prairie, there we is no work on the road. A fine day.

Tuesday – Sept. 21st

Start at 8.15 – very foggy. Over the flat & through cotton swamps, &c., for 10 miles, then 4 miles of 4th of July canon which is for the most part terribly rough, then 4 miles of ridges & swamp to Wolf Lodge, and 12 miles over the ridges to Fort Lamar d'Arme – in all 30 miles, getting in at 7.30. Got something to eat and turned in the way, finding only three of the great water or bottom sections a foot in diameter. Find Rosemans in the swamp, – crossed Tim 20 feet wide & 6' through, Hooper 20 feet wide & – feet through, & the canon bridge a foot through. Pioneers performed wonders on the bridges & dirty bottoms.

Wednesday - Sept. 22.

At Fort Lincoln. Got cigar boxes & packed the seedlings in wind sticks & moss for mailing. In afternoon succeeded in disposing of horse and equipments for $25, making cost of horse to Minnesota and back just $20. Called on Capt. Clarke, the quartermaster. Found telegram from Prof. Sargent & also received one from Bank of California, but neither the G. N. nor author has money for a draft. Can doubtless get it without trouble at Spokane Falls.

Thursday night, 2d.

Take stage at 1½ P.M. for Spokane Falls, 30 miles, going down the Spokane Valley & crossing the river at the Ferry. After leaving the Spokane Springs near the fort the valley is flat and without trees, the mountain ridges on each side rather thickly wooded. Reach the Falls at 3 P.M. & intend to leave for Fort Colville by the morning stage, but some of the merchants wish to see us keep on to San Francisco & the owner of the steamboat firm wishes to do it only after telegraphing to S.F. — Think it worthwhile to stay as no stage leaves again till Monday, and approve, but there is no hotel for us. A new day. Find now of my hopes of a ship, waiting at the fort, already promised to persons, and expects it the next day.

Friday - Sept. 24th

Visit the sawmill & the falls, and botanize among the rocks, mostly for mosses. Timber about ready prime. Telegram comes in evening, satisfactory. Write up notes.

Sentinel Mountain — Sept. 25th

Up the river to the N.P.R.R. sawmill & to where the chinamen are digging in the bank of the road, decorated mostly for a tamarack. This, tu, has to come from up the river — those men from the Yellowline region. Some cedar brought down from above Coeur d'Alene. Mr. Harris here but do not hear of his title after he has gone.

Record of Barometer &c

| 1880 | 7.32 a.m. | 12.32 P.m. | 5.32 P.m. |
|---|---|---|---|
| July 13 | 26.948 | 26.995 | 26.959 |
| 14 | .956 | 27.011 | .949 |
| 15 | .934 | 26.897 | .870 |
| 16 | .873 | .845 | .796 |
| 17 | .772 | .773 | .672 |
| 18 | .703 | .634 | .631 |
| 19 | .709 | .723 | .706 |
| 20 | .811 | .790 | .739 |
| 21 | .770 | .779 | .769 |
| 22 | .809 | .847 | .782 |
| 23 | .877 | .874 | .910 |
| 24 | .851 | .795 | .701 |
| 25 | .722 | .730 | .660 |
| 26 | .668 | .671 | .641 |
| 27 | .743 | .756 | .724 |
| 28 | .804 | .824 | .850 |
| 29 | .747 | .759 | .746 |
| 30 | .662 | .595 | .530 |
| 31 | .730 | .734 | .777 |

[illegible]

| | 7.32 a.m. | 12.32 P.m. | 6.32 P.m |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. 1 | 26.843 | 26.914 | 26.922 |
| 2 | .936 | .929 | .827 |
| 3 | .772 | .740 | .630 |
| 4 | .617 | .556 | .493 |
| 5 | .697 | .640 | .720 |
| 6 | .861 | .862 | .851 |
| 7 | .964 | .934 | .849 |
| 8 | .908 | .879 | .767 |
| 9 | .745 | .641 | .591 |
| 10 | .590 | .572 | .560 |
| 11 | .636 | .647 | .717 |
| 12 | .811 | .735 | .726 |
| 13 | .792 | .715 | .752 |
| 14 | .744 | .661 | .682 |
| 15 | .682 | .660 | .645 |
| 16 | .696 | .681 | .646 |
| 17 | .649 | .732 | .621 |
| 18 | .679 | .746 | .792 |
| 19 | .744 | .804 | .754 |
| 20 | .730 | .715 | .693 |

| | 7.32 a.m. | 12.32 p.m. | 4.32 p.m. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. 21 | 26.737 | 26.597 | 26.515 |
| 22 | .547 | .504 | .493 |
| 23 | .542 | .462 | .475 |
| 24 | .529 | .609 | .647 |
| 25 | .717 | .659 | .667 |
| 26 | .689 | .722 | .764 |
| 27 | .719 | .652 | .552 |
| 28 | .462 | .347 | .599 |
| 29 | .574 | .649 | .673 |
| 30 | .674 | .691 | .699 |
| 31 | .623 | .743 | .779 |
| Sept. 1 | .434 | .436 | .426 |
| 2 | .763 | .774 | .792 |
| 3 | .743 | .772 | .777 |
| 4 | .773 | .742 | .755 |
| 5 | .704 | .439 | .500 |
| 6 | .463 | .411 | .704 |
| 7 | .761 | .672 | .743 |
| 8 | .726 | .670 | .674 |
| 9 | .649 | .712 | .640 |
| 10 | .653 | .597 | .744 |
| 11 | .904 | 27.0[illegible]2 | 27.07[illegible] |
| 12 | 27.092 | 26.[illegible] | 26.799 |

Serena Watson's

Notes — No. V.

From Missoula to Spokan Falls.

Sept. 11th to 26th, 1880.